

FYI Online: In the news



Commissioner Judie Stanton



Bill Feddeler



Mike Leboki



Tammy Mackey



John Pennington

Sammy Awards recognize outstanding local efforts to save salmon

On Thursday May 16, 2002, the Board of Clark County Commissioners and guest of honor D. Robert Lohn sung the praises of the unsung heroes of salmon recovery in Clark County before an audience of government officials and dignitaries, award recipients and their guests, and members of the general public. The occasion was the 2002 Sammy Awards, which took place at the Water Resources Education Center in Vancouver.

Lohn, Regional Administrator for the National Marine Fisheries Service, NW Region, described the efforts of the award recipients as gifts to the rest of us: the projects that help to recover salmon; the examples of stewardship; and the gift of hope that salmon recovery is possible.

Commissioner Judie Stanton discussed the need to showcase these salmon recovery efforts to encourage others to get involved, noting that the role of government is limited and that citizen participation is essential.

Lohn and the Clark County commissioners presented Sammy Awards to the following groups and individuals:

CLARK-SKAMANIA FLYFISHERS

Clark Skamania Flyfishers has pioneered efforts toward the protection and restoration of native salmon in our region, from their surveys and data collection to their advocacy for an environmentally responsible wild salmonid policy for Washington state.

LARRY AND SUZI CLEMENT

The Clements worked with Clark Public Utilities to restore 1200 feet of riparian habitat along their lower Salmon Creek property, creating wide buffers of streamside vegetation rarely found outside of public lands.

HOME DEPOT

Home Depot demonstrated a spirit of cooperation on environmental education unequaled by any other large retailer in the county. They willingly allowed Clark County staff to display signage that identified salmon-friendly products and to conduct on-site natural gardening workshops.

BILL FEDDELER AND THE WATER RESOURCES EDUCATION CENTER

Bill Feddeler and the Water Resources Education Center are helping young people to care about salmon through the innovative Watershed Monitoring Network, a program in which students from grades one through college monitor streams and present their findings at the Watershed Congress.

MIKE LEBOKI

The owner of Taylor Trucking in Camas, Mike and his crew have volunteered their time and labor to haul materials for several habitat restoration projects in the Washougal River watershed during the last four years.

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Certificates of Merit

In addition to the Sammy Awards, six certificates of merit were awarded to the following:

GLENN AKINS

For contributions to habitat restoration and salmon education.

DICK DYRLAND

For dedication to salmon recovery and leadership in restoration and education efforts.

EVERGREEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

In recognition of the Earth Saver Pilot Project, whose curriculum includes a unit that informs students about the effects of storm-water runoff on the health of wild salmon.

PETER ILLYN

In recognition of outstanding defense of endangered species and for encouraging environmental stewardship among Clark County church congregations.

GEORGE SIMPSON

In recognition of a lifetime commitment to the conservation of environmentally sensitive land, including areas of critical salmon habitat.

JIM STOLARZYK

In recognition of pioneering work in restoring streams for salmon.

TAMMY MACKEY

From her work as a fish biologist to her participation with numerous conservation organizations throughout Clark County, and her willingness to lobby congressional leaders on fish issues, Tammy Mackey is a tireless messenger about the need to save our wild salmon.

GARY AND DANA OSTENSON

The Ostensons worked with the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group to restore salmon habitat on their Washougal River property. They restored over 1000 feet of a creek, replaced an old culvert with a bridge, excavated a 700-foot off-channel rearing pond, and placed logs on streambanks to prevent erosion.

TOM AND SANDRA PAGEL

The Pagel family worked with Clark Public Utilities to restore seven acres of riparian area on their Mill Creek property. More than seven thousand native trees and shrubs were planted. The Pagels also fenced livestock away from the creek, which reduced their pasture by forty percent.

JENNIFER SHARP

Jennifer Sharp has gone the extra mile to inspire her students to learn about their watershed and to care about salmon. She has obtained several grants to upgrade classroom technology and has implemented a student mentorship program.

Commissioners Sammy Award Winner

JOHN PENNINGTON

As a State Representative and a member of the House Natural Resources committee, John Pennington dedicated time, effort, and political capital to pass House Bill 2835, which established the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, on which he subsequently served as chair. The board is recognized across the northwest as a model for salmon recovery.



*Jennifer Sharp -
Camas High School*



Sue Bell, Home Depot, accepts her award from Bob Lohn, while Commissioners Craig Pridemore and Betty Sue Morris look on.